THE SIXTH DAY.

Saturday, the 7th March 1931.

The Assembly met again at 11-30 A. M. on Saturday, the 7th March 1931, the Dewan presiding.

91. Needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. A. MATHEVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum taluk, Group II*) speaking in Malayalam, said that large portions of the Kazhakootam and Punnattu *elas* had become unfit for cultivation on account of the deposits of loose soil brought down by rain water from the forest areas of Kuppakuzhi and Kooravuvila. About 500 acres of those forest areas had been registered in the names of private individuals under the *Puduval* rules. The lands had been marked off by *kayyala* walls and boundary ditches. The rain water which was easily let out of the various plots flowed down through the ditches into the *elas* with loose earth and consequently it had become impossible to cultivate the *elas*. The ryots were too poor to have the deposits removed and most of them were paying Government dues without getting any return from the lands concerned. The difficulties of the ryots had already been brought to the notice of the Dewan Peishkar and the Irrigation Committee. Though the ryots had been promised relief, nothing had yet been done. Government should therefore take early measures to remove the deposits and to prevent the further accumulation of sand by cutting drainage channels at suitable points in order to divert elsewhere the flow of deposit bearing rain water.

The Mahadeva temple, which was one of the Major Devaswoms, was visited by large crowds of worshippers. The Kumil *thirtham* was also a resort of Hindu worshippers. In the rainy season, it was impossible to reach the temple and the *thirtham* for want of a cart road. There was already a foot-path leading from the temple to the *thirtham*. It should be converted into a cart-road and the necessary culverts should be constructed to let off the rain water which accumulated there.

A village Anchal Office should be opened near the Pothencode public market. The market occupied a central position in the *pakuthies* of Aiyruppara, Kizhthonnakal, Andurkonam, Manikkal and Ooliyazhathura. The market was also the resort of a big concourse of people from the surrounding country side. A *pakuthi* cutcherry, several schools and some shops were situated near the market. A village Anchal Office was a necessity in such a central place.

A road from Kariyam to Mannanthala was sanctioned in 1098 ; and in the same year a sum of Rs. 8,000 was allotted for the work. Apart from some preliminary investigations conducted by the then Chief Engineer, Mr. Natesa Iyer, nothing had been done in the matter. It was not even known how the allotment had been spent. As the road was very necessary to ryots, particularly for bringing manure from the depots, early steps should be taken for its construction.

The *pakuthies* of Pallipuram and Andurkonam were not more than a mile and a half distant from the Kazhakootam Sub-Registry Office. Originally, the two *pakuthies* were included in the jurisdiction of the said Sub-Registry Office. According to the existing arrangement, the people of those *pakuthies* had to travel about six or seven miles in order to reach their Sub-Registry Office which was at Thonnakal. The two *pakuthies* should therefore be included in the jurisdiction of the Kazhakootam office.

Kazhakootam was the centre of fourteen *pakuthies* included in Group II of the Trivandrum taluk. The absence of a Magistrate's Court and of a dispensary at the place was causing immense hardship to the people. The matter had often been brought to the notice of the authorities. A Magistrate's Court and a dispensary should soon be established at Kazhakootam.

Between Trivandrum and Kazhakootam, there was, till some years ago, a Police out-post at Srikaryam. The abolition of the out-post caused a great deal of inconvenience to the people and an enormous increase in the number of criminal cases in the locality. The Police out-post should be re-established. The old building was still available for the purpose.

The ryots were suffering great hardship on account of the neglect of the irrigation tanks in the Ayiruppara, Ooliyazhathura, Kazhakootam and other *pakuthies*. Irrigation tanks of some sort or other were made only in four *pakuthies* and the remaining ten *pakuthies* had no irrigation facilities at all. Even the tanks already made had fallen into disuse by neglect. The matter had already been brought to the notice of the Irrigation Committee. The existing tanks should be immediately repaired and new tanks provided for the remaining *pakuthies*.

The member finally suggested that the subordinates of the Government who molested persons for representing popular grievances before them should be severely dealt with. He said he would desist from mentioning the names of such officers for the time being.

DEWAN'S REPLY: നിങ്ങളുടെ നിവേദനത്തിൽ നിങ്ങൾ അറ്റ്യായി പറഞ്ഞതു് കഴക്കൂട്ടം ഏലായിൽ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാകുന്ന ഉപദ്രവത്തെ തടയുന്നതിനു എന്തെങ്കിലും നിവൃത്തിമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നാണു്. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ചീഫ് എൻജനീയർ ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ (investigation) നടത്തുകയാണു്. ചീഫ് എൻജനീയരുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടുവന്നശേഷം അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാം.

നിങ്ങളം അഞ്ചൽ ആഫീസിന്റെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി പറഞ്ഞു. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അഞ്ചൽ സൂപ്രണ്ടിനെ എഴുതി അയയ്ക്കാം.

നിങ്ങളം പറഞ്ഞ മറ്റുസംഗതികളെല്ലാം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്ന ആലോചിക്കാം.

[The Chief Engineer is conducting an investigation into the question of flood damages in the Kazhakoottam *ela*. The Anchal Superintendent will be consulted in regard to the Anchal Office. The other points will be considered by the Government.]

92. Some needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*) said that the Shankhumukham road in Trivandrum was the scene of heavy traffic. The road was so badly repaired that, when a bus or car passed along the road, the pedestrians were compelled to have a dust-bath. During the rainy season, the condition of the road was still worse. The road was an important one as it was used by His Highness the Maha Raja twice a year during the Arat festivals. The road led to the palace buildings and was joined to the newly opened Veli road, near which there was a colony. The road was metalled only up to the palace boat-shed. It was very necessary to metal the remaining portion of the road, extending for a mile from the *mandapom* to the beach.

A proper drainage system for the Trivandrum town was an absolute necessity and was a necessary preliminary to the introduction of the pipe-water scheme. There were many places in the town which were badly in need of drains, *e. g.*, the Karuppattikada market road, the road from Pulimood to Vanchiyoor, the Attakulangara mosque lane and the road from the Vettimuricha Fort to the Attakulangara junction.

The control and maintenance of the drains was vested in the Public Works Department. It was therefore the duty of the Government to provide proper drainage facilities as early as possible. The sewage water which accumulated in the Putharikandam fields and the Kuriathi *ela* gave rise to several diseases in the town. Almost every epidemic began in that area. Though the Municipality did its utmost to keep the drains neat and clean, the drains were still in a miserable condition, as there was no proper outlet for the sewage water.

Very often, opinion differed as to whether it was necessary to have drains in a particular locality or not and the Government sometimes said that, if there should be drains in any particular locality, it was the duty of the Municipality to construct and maintain them. But the Municipality did not possess sufficient funds to undertake the work. A perfect system of drainage should be introduced by the Government, as the work done by the Municipality in that direction touched only the fringe of the problem.